

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/529,696

Examiner

Adi Amrany

Applicant(s)

BROCHU ET AL.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicants' Remarks, 26 September 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 9-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed September 26, 2006, with respect to claims 1-6 and 9-13 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Peter Ludwig on October 24, 2006. Applicants' Remarks indicated that errors to the specification were corrected in response to objections made in the non-final rejection (June 27, 2006). The specification at page 12, lines 16-24, however, was not amended.

The specification has been amended as follows: On page 12, please replace the paragraph at lines 16-24 with:

Referring to Figure 10B, while the two busses 30, 32 of the PST 2 are short-circuited by the circuit breakers 34 of the grid, the internal angle Ψ is adjusted to zero degrees and then the PST 2 is activated. The angle σ_{sr} at the terminals of the PST 2 is zero. Subsequently, the grid is configured in anticipation of concentrating the charging current as before (e.g. by operating the circuit breaker 26 of the grid). Finally, the circuit breaker 34 short-circuiting the PST 2 is opened. In this way, the lines to be de-iced 4,6

are in antenna configuration. On the other hand, depending the operating conditions, the readjustment of the wheelings at the moment of inserting the PST 2 can be more important than with the first method.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-6 and 9-13 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 1, the prior art does not teach or suggest a method of de-icing energized electric lines of an alternating current voltage distribution or transmission network, comprising, inter alia, adjusting the angular offset of the apparatus to impose an increase in current flowing in at least one of the segments of the loops.

With respect to claim 10, the prior art does not teach or suggest a method of de-icing energized electric lines of an alternating current voltage distribution or transmission network, comprising, inter alia, connecting the apparatus in circuit with the loop, the apparatus and the line segments being previously chosen so that the angular offset produced by the apparatus imposes an increase in current flowing in at least one of the segments of the loop.

Also see Applicants' Remarks, September 26, 2006, pages 10-16, namely the list of features on pages 12-13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adi Amrany whose telephone number is (571) 272-0415. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays, from 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272-2800 x36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AA


BURTON S. MULLINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER